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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/709,036	04/08/2004	I-Chang Tsao	12468-US-PA	3035
31561 7590 01/16/2008 JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE 7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100 ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2 TAIPEI, 100 TAIWAN			EXAMINER HEINRICH, SAMUEL M	
			ART UNIT 1793	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 01/16/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

USA@JCIPGROUP.COM.TW

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/709,036

Applicant(s)

TSAO ET AL.

Examiner

Samuel M. Heinrich

Art Unit

1725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 4,707,909 to Blanchard in view of US20020069966A1 to Elliott et al. Blanchard describes (column 2, lines 8-29; and claim 2) well known dynamic feedback controlled trim anneal of silicon thin film. The feedback is based on film resistance values. Blanchard does not describe modules. Elliott et al describe (e.g., [0022][0072]) well known moveable apparatus modules. The use of modules in Blanchard would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art because modules provide building block assembly and or replacement

capability to the apparatus. Elliott et al describe (e.g., [0030]) a programmable control module and the use thereof would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art because it provides rapid apparatus operation.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,518,951 to Paynter et al in view of US20020069966A1 to Elliott et al. Paynter et al describe (column 3, lines 43-54) laser annealing amorphous silicon film and "Monitoring of resistivity provides electrical feedback that may be used to adjust the laser and control the annealing process." Paynter et al do not describe modules. Elliott et al describe (e.g., [0022][0072]) well known moveable apparatus modules. The use of modules in Paynter et al would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art because modules provide building block assembly and or replacement capability to the apparatus. Elliott et al describe (e.g., [0030]) a programmable control module and the use thereof would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art because it provides rapid apparatus operation. Note, Paynter et al describe (column 7, lines 42-52) use of a probe attached to contacts for operating control.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed October 23, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Blanchard does not specifically disclose "laser energy intensity is dynamically adjusted according to the sheet resistance". This argument is

not convincing. Blanchard describes (column 2, lines 8-13) trimming silicon films to desirable resistance values using a dynamic feedback controlled anneal process and describes (Claim 2) "the thin film selected area resistance value is monitored continuously for feedback control of the third anneal by the focused heat source." The instant claimed apparatus features in a modular arrangement would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art.

Applicant argues that Paynter et al do not specifically disclose laser energy power "is changing in time according to the measured resistance, so as to control the size of crystal grains". This argument is not convincing. Paynter et al describe (column 3, lines 52-54) "Monitoring of resistivity provides electrical feedback that may be used to adjust the laser and control the annealing process." Applicant further describes the measured resistance in Paynter et al "is not the sheet resistance". This argument is not convincing. Paynter et al describe (e.g., Abstract) "Through selective laser annealing, portions of the semiconductor layer between selected metal contacts are recrystallized to a preselected resistance". The instant claimed apparatus features in a modular arrangement would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art.

Conclusion

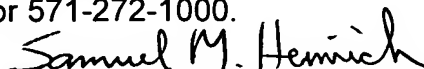
THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samuel M. Heinrich whose telephone number is 571-272-1175. The examiner's supervisor, J. Johnson, can be reached on 571-272-1292. The fax phone number where this application is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Samuel M Heinrich
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1725

SMH